

# THE BEE

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## MR. MORRIS.

Mr. E. H. Morris, the Chicago attorney, delivered an address at the Bethel Literary Society Tuesday evening on the subject of "The Passing Show." The flattering attendance anticipated a learned address, but, instead, they heard a cleverly-constructed bit of sophistry, and a species of sophistry that did no credit to a man of Mr. Morris' ability and legal acumen. Taking Dr. Washington's book and addresses, he culled here and there widely separated sentences and paragraphs and interpreted them to suit his (Morris') own purpose. There was neither rhyme nor reason in the address, though there was cleverness—the cleverness which a consciousless, crafty lawyer practices when he has no evidence upon which to construct an argument. Mr. Morris' life has been selfish in the extreme. Cool, calculating, crafty and deliberate, he nominates in his bonds the pound of flesh, and extracts it with the same cool, calculating, crafty promptings of a consciousless heart.

Mr. Morris builds for self alone, and will tear down any edifice in order to appropriate the material therein to build an edifice for his own exclusive habitation. Mr. Morris is of that type of men who will destroy anything and everything that cannot be made to contribute directly to his coffers. He is perhaps one of the ablest lawyers the race has produced. He is also, perhaps, one of the most unsympathetic men the race has produced. Like a miser, he would jingle his gold in the seclusion of his den, but not a sou would he pass out to appease the hunger of a single human being. Taking the argument that Mr. Morris offered at the Bethel meeting, which was really no argument, but simply cheap sophistry to the man of reason and unprejudiced mind, it offered the best possible and the most conclusive argument in favor of Dr. Washington as a man pre-eminent in beneficence for his race. If Dr. Washington's position as a safe, sane and elevating leader is not shaken until shaken by such specious sophistry as Mr. Morris offered, and if the confidence and faith of the masses in Dr. Washington's honesty, sincerity and helpfulness is not disturbed until it is disturbed by unsubstantiated deductions like Mr. Morris made Tuesday night, then Dr. Washington will continue on until the end of life the recognized safe leader that he is today; and even after the putting off of mortality, his works will continue to lead his people. Mr. Morris only did himself discredit by offering absolutely rotten sophistry where people had a right because of his eminence as a lawyer to expect a strong brief.

## A NEW RICHMOND IN THE FIELD.

Mr. Frank Clark, of the Second district of Florida, introduced a bill in Congress a few weeks ago to establish "Jim Crow" cars in the District of Columbia. This bill was referred to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia for a report. It was not long before the bill was returned by this body to the effect that there was no "Jim Crow" sentiment in this city, so far as "Jim Crow" cars and other "Jim Crowism" were concerned. If the Commissioners had been born upon a farm, like the author of the bill, and had not been used to good treatment by the people whom Mr. Clark would "Jim Crow," perhaps some attention

would have been paid to his bill. But, as it is, the three Commissioners live in an atmosphere of aristocracy, and they are also aristocratic officials of our Government; they have no fear of being contaminated by association or contact with colored Americans.

There is one thing certain, and it cannot be contradicted, that you can never hear of a Democratic Representative in Congress or a Senator from the South until he introduces a "Jim Crow" car or some other kind of a "Jim Crow" measure. Who ever heard of Heflin, of Alabama, until he came in contact with a District Negro or until he introduced a "Jim Crow" car bill in Congress? Who ever heard of Ben. Tillman until he abused the Negro? Who ever heard of Simms, of Tennessee until he attacked the Negro? Now, here comes a new Richmond in the field by the name of Frank Clark, of Gainesville, Fla. He was born at Eufaula, Ala., March 28, 1860, just before the war, and was educated in the common schools of Alabama and Georgia. His biography states that he was "raised on a farm." He certainly must have come in contact with Negroes, and there is no record that he ever had any of them separated from his surrounding when he had the hoe and shovel in his hands.

The common schools he attended never taught segregation in those days, because Negro and white farm hands worked together. It is claimed that he studied law, and was admitted to the practice of that profession at Fairburn, Ga., Aug. 3, 1881. Just when he studied law, The Bee has failed to discover. In 1884 he moved to Florida and located at Bartow. He served three terms in the Legislature. There is no record that he was heard of outside of his own county while in the Legislature. He is a Baptist; but just what kind of Baptist The Bee would like to know. If his creed taught discrimination, segregation, etc., his creed was one only known to Democrats like himself. He belonged to the Knights of Pythias, and was an Elk. He never followed, nor did he ever become intoxicated with the creed of either organization. Had he, there would have certainly been some kind of religion in his soul. He was elected to the Fifty-ninth Congress, and nothing was ever heard of Mr. Clark until a few days ago, when he thought it was time for him to make himself known in this city, by introducing a "Jim Crow" car bill, which was referred to the District Commissioners.

This has been a busy Congress; great measures have been introduced; great questions have been discussed; attempts have been made to revolutionize the House and decapitate the head of Speaker Cannon; and for little articles of impeachment might have been threatened against the President.

The Republican party was put out of business Nov. 8; and, just think of it, the name of Mr. Clark has never been seen, heard of or mentioned until he introduced a "Jim Crow" car bill to separate the Negroes from the good white people, many of whom no doubt worked on the same farm, near and with this new Richmond from Florida. Let us reflect.

## NO SEPARATE LECTURES.

Dr. William A. White, superintendent of the Government Hospital, has declared that he cannot possibly give two lectures, one for the white students of Georgetown and the George Washington universities, and one for the colored students of Howard University. These white students, it will be recalled, refused to attend a lecture last week, on mental diseases, because the colored students of the medical department of Howard University had been invited and did attend. Georgetown and George Washington are privately endowed institutions. The Government Hospital for the Insane and Howard University are institutions maintained and controlled by the Government, and yet these students of the two former institutions had the audacity to demand that the Government discriminate against itself in favor of outside institutions. Dr. White is entitled to the respect and the thanks of all Negroes for his stand. Especially indebted to him are the Negro students of Howard University, who are hungering and thirsting for knowledge. The fair and just decision of Dr. White, who, in effect, pronounces that science knows no color—that the Government's first duty is to itself—is in striking contrast to President Thirkield's near-palating interview given out at the time

the haughty white students refused to attend the lectures because of the presence of some 40 free-born, upright, knowledgeable American citizens whose color was tinted with a shade a few degrees darker than white. We are charitable enough to believe that possibly President Thirkield was taken so by surprise that he had not time to weigh his words. But Dr. White has spoken as only a true American citizen and a dutiful and conscientious public official could speak. To him the race owes a debt of gratitude.

## THE BEE'S POLICY.

The Bee announced last week that its policy might be changed. In that it was meant this paper does not longer intend to make attempts to smooth over, with a thin coat of harmony, conditions which call for fearless, outspoken protests. It meant also that this newspaper proposes to make a determined fight against those within and without the race who, following a selfish plan, are attempting to convert the whole race into an asset for their personal and selfish selves. We recognize that radicalism, untempered by consideration, is far more retarding than conservatism that is a near kin to servility. We recognize that conservatism that yields every point where manhood is of prime necessity is quite as much of an obstacle in the path of progress as inconsiderate radicalism. There is a helpful and healthy and advantageous medium between the two, and that medium will be The Bee's policy.

It matters not how high nor how low is the man, class or faction whose efforts are out of tune with justice for the race; against such this newspaper proposes to wield an uncompromising fight. If there is corruption in fraternal orders, The Bee will point to it, and more, will name the men guilty. The editorials of this newspaper will be made stronger and more virile, if that be possible. To those who are waging a hampered, though consistent and unselfish contest for race uplift, The Bee will give cordial and constant support. And this newspaper has age behind it. It is not of mushroom growth, but for thirty years it has been issued without missing a date, and it is known wherever a Negro runs and reads. We have set our high mark, and if conserving the interest of the race, the whole race, begets influence for good, the year 1911 will record the high-water mark of The Bee's beneficent influence in behalf of and for the race. The Bee is no man's petty organ.

## COLOR CRAZE.

And now there is a color craze at the Government Hospital for the Insane. The Georgetown University and the George Washington University medical students have decided not to attend the medical lectures given by Dr. White at the Government Hospital for the Insane if Negroes attend.

Is it any more harm for colored students to sit in the same hall with these white students than it is for them to sit side by side in a street car? Suppose the 100 white students were on a sinking ship in midocean; would they run away from a floating boat near by containing colored seamen? Or would these 100 students rather sink out of sight?

The colored medical students at Howard University are gentlemen. Have these 100 students read the latest compliment paid the colored students and the medical school of Howard University? These white students who went to hear Dr. White's lecture on insanity must be in need of brain cure themselves, because no sane medical student would have made an ass of himself, as the 100 white men did when they walked out of the lecture room or refuse to attend with Negro students.

The time will soon come when the prejudiced white man will see his error. There must be something in the Negro that the white man fears. What is it? Will some one answer the question?

The Negro has not always been regarded a dangerous animal. He has been left alone with the white man's wife and daughter while he (the white man) has gone to war and returned and found them safe and sound. The good white women in the South don't fear the Negro. Why do the men fear him? Please explain.

## OH, THE SCHOOLS.

And now the health officer of the District of Columbia has made a great discovery as to the cause of so much ill health in the city. The public schools in this city are,

as old as the Government, and there are people living to-day since the foundation of the Government who have taken a course in nothing.

Dr. Woodward thinks that the public schools should prevent that which he is paid for. He is charged with the city's health. Why not call on the collector of taxes or the assessor of the District of Columbia for the number of deaths that occurred in the city every year; or ask the Commissioners to instruct these two officers to have their clerks to compile health statistics every year?

It would seem to The Bee that the public schools have enough of their own business to attend to instead of attending to the duties of the health officer. The pupils in our schools are instructed in hygiene by the teachers, and they have been from time immemorial. But the health of the city should be looked after by the health officer of our local Government. What the people should be instructed to do is to keep their bodies clean, their clothes washed and their teeth thoroughly cleaned.

Oh, the schools!

## LEWIS' APPOINTMENT.

The Bee is constantly in receipt of inquiries, by mail and otherwise, as to the possible appointment of W. H. Lewis, of Boston, to be the Assistant Attorney General. The Negroes of the United States, influenced by the reports in the daily newspapers to the effect that he will not be appointed, are much wrought up. The Bee confidently believes, until the President announces otherwise, that Mr. Lewis will be appointed.

We admonish our people to curb their impetuosity, to hold their peace and await word from the President. Mr. Lewis—and all honor to him for it—is preserving a dignified silence, although it must be and is embarrassing to him to be held, as it were, up to public gaze as one who came so near, but not near enough. His tactful manner and his dignified silence offers one more proof that he is big enough and brainy enough to fill the position, and that, too, with credit to the Department of Justice. It is our opinion, though we have no authoritative information, that the President will, in his own time, appoint Mr. Lewis. As yet our optimism, in so far as this special case is concerned, has not been displaced by pessimism.

## ASK THE PEOPLE.

The citizens of Washington have the most implicit faith in Superintendent Stuart. They believe that he is the right man in the right place, and has done and will do all in his power to elevate the public school system under his supervision.

The Bee knows also that he exercises no tyrannical authority over his teachers and other subordinates under him. He is not the man to deprive the normal school graduates of their just dues by placing favorites or outsiders over them. White teachers are not nervous; they feel content, and will work to aid their superintendent. Mr. Stuart will not tolerate a "tattler," and neither will he encourage a mischief-maker. The people who are interested in the colored schools want just such a man as Mr. Stuart. It is in his power to give the colored schools a man acceptable to the people. Will Mr. Stuart do so? Ask the people, Mr. Stuart, what they want.

## VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS.

The Bee recognizes that the subject of vocational schools is a question of deep concern. Opposing it as we have, yet we know it, as most everything that aims to better the masses, must have some strong points. In order to educate the people up to it, and in order to give the opponents and opposers an equal chance to advise the public, we suggest that Dr. Bruce Evans and Prof. Arthur Newman, respectively, set forth, in the columns of The Bee the advantages of and difference between, if any, manual training and vocational schools. If there is no conflict, and if the vocational school serves a purpose the manual training school does not, let the public know it. The public has a right to know.

## WHY NOT ORGANIZE?

There are all kinds of organizations in this city, from a grasshoppers' brigade to an ant light infantry. There are a mushroom battalion to a monkey artillery, and not an organization among Negro lawyers. They won't organize. Their time is taken up

cutting one another's throats. And why these so-called intellectual men don't organize, The Bee can't state. Many of them are more busy attending to business that does not belong to them than they are to business that belongs to themselves. There should be a National bar association among Negro lawyers. Can one be organized?

## JUDGE SMITH.

President Taft nominated Representative Walter I. Smith, of Iowa, United States Judge for the Eighth circuit, to succeed Judge Vandeventer. Mr. Smith is a man of great legal ability, and the man suited for the place. The Bee congratulates you, Judge Smith.

This newspaper is making a thorough investigation into a matter of deep concern to thousands of colored men, which calls for a protest. If the facts bear out our opinion, next week's issue will carry a ringing editorial of denunciation that will make all sit up and take notice. We will call a spade a spade, and the editorial will be of National interest.

The banquet for Henry Lincoln Johnson, Editor Slaughter and Grandmaster Morris, of the Odd Fellows, was pulled off as per schedule. It is reported as a felicitous affair. Just why the promoters coupled the three distinctions is not known. A banquet to Mr. Johnson should have been separate and distinct from the other two. However, if the promoters and banqueters are satisfied, The Bee is also satisfied.

Negro firms and business houses are gently reminded that the way to reach a remunerative patronage is through the advertising columns of The Bee. A hint to the wise is sufficient.

The Bee's circulation is double that of all other race newspapers in the District. Our books against their books for the proof.

They segregated the colored clerks, it is alleged, in the Census Office, and now comes the rumor that the same damnable segregation is in effect in the Postoffice Department. We withhold comment until we know for a certainty that such is the truth.

There are aids and battalion, regiment and company officers, but there is but one leader, and his name a household name—Booker T. Washington.

## THE WAY OUTSIDERS LOOK AT IT.

Bruce's Propaganda Condemned. To the Editor of The Bee. It is with no small degree of regret that I learn Washington is to have a vocational school, with a minimum of academic studies. The public school, whether elementary or high, located either in the city or country should have a wide range of interests and the curriculum should be expanded and enriched so as to minister to the natural inclination of those in attendance. Because a boy is born and grows up in an urban center, is that any just reason why he should not have an aptitude for farming? Shall the country youth not have a fair chance to pursue a commercial course? Every pupil in a public school should be given an opportunity to elect the work for which he or she is best fitted.

A goodly number of the leading men of our race oppose industrial education, as they claim it will establish social distinctions. The separation of agricultural, industrial and household are schools is a step toward segregation, and we can not afford to endorse any philosophy of education that tends to peasantize any portion of our race. The purpose of schools, especially those supported by the public, is not to teach subjects and arts, but to train boys and girls. Subjects are incidental to so training boys and girls that they may be able to live the fullest possible lives. The only fault with the public high school is that it was established with the idea that every pupil's brain, potentially, was capable of developing under a universal curriculum. As a result of this belief every pupil has been passed through the same "educational cider press" and condemned if he did not show up well.

Dr. Washington, in a recent article, cites the case of a Harvard graduate as a failure in educational theory at his institution.

Again, the worst teaching is done in secondary schools, where the teachers are mostly college graduates. The studies pursued in these "higher" institutions keep them "up in the air," and out of touch with common things of life. They absorb themselves in science and have no realization of the existence of such a thing as an art, and in the school room present a type of the pathetic schoolmaster pictured by Goldsmith, Scott, Irving and Dickens. The school house should not merely concern itself with the past, but with the history that is now being made. Magazines, newspapers, including the Negro sheets and supplementary books discuss live issues and are as essential to the teacher's proper equipment as educational journals and professional publications. In fact, there is so much not to be found in text books that the teacher must be the text book for each subject. In recommending teachers who are to

constitute the faculty of State normals which the people of Maryland demand, have wide interests. I have sought the best representatives in every line of science and art that are considered necessary for the highest individual and racial development. In the opinion of the writer a teacher who is such a pronounced and confirmed specialist as to be wholly absorbed in his subject to the utter disregard for all others is in no position to labor in a normal school, which seeks to revitalize the elementary schools by an appropriate and advantageous correlation of academic subjects and systematic coordination of theory and practice.

Industrial courses are not to train farmers, mechanics or domestics exclusively, but for intelligent citizens who know how to successfully ply their several and diversified arts and crafts. No school system needs any more than it needs schools of psychology or English. The technical and industrial schools were largely a protest against the older education. It was natural at first they should be separate institutions, but in this day and time every boy and girl should be trained in a cosmopolitan atmosphere, in an environment much broader than individual interests. Reorganize the two high schools and arrange to have more than one avenue into life. Pupils pursuing varied courses besides mingling together should acquire proficiency, each in his own line, and a sympathetic breadth of character results from daily association. As an illustration of the truth of this statement, the State University, embracing the several colleges of law, medicine, theology, agriculture and engineering, is unsurpassed.

A prominent writer in describing the development of Southern Russia in wealth, culture, art, volume of crops and minerals, makes the following comment on education: "The schools are of a very low grade, and the number ought to be increased, but the officials who have charge of such matters answer the criticism by saying that they will start a school for every competent teacher that can be found. It is not a question of school houses, they declare, but a question of teachers." Prof. Thorndike, in discussing the elimination of pupils from school, says the one main cause of elimination is the incapacity for and lack of interest in the sort of intellectual work demanded by present courses of study. Neither free schooling nor compulsory education guarantees even a solid elementary training for all children. The amazing phenomenon in human life is the absolute forgetfulness by adults of their childish thoughts and feelings. The general attitude which assumes that childhood is a preparation for life, is a colossal blunder, and doubtless the cause of many mistakes made by mature folks in dealing with younger people. By their teachers Beecher was regarded as a dunce, Webster as a failure, Spencer as dull, and Franklin as stupid. Records fail to show that Emerson, Huxley, Shakespeare or Edison ever led their classes in school. Suppose the genius just mentioned had been denied the opportunity for advanced academic or technical training?

Good land grows weeds when no crop is planted, so the pupil who is occupied with no interesting task is a perennial torment. Let us not condemn him, but make the psychological experiment to ascertain his tastes and aptitude. The average teacher knows books better than she does children. The pupil whom most teachers would designate as good, usually lacks independence, enthusiasm, originality and achieving power. Children are actually living and their lives must be respected. Utilize the theory as set forth by Prof. Dewey and inherited from Comenius, that education is not merely a preparation for life but is or should be life itself. Rousseau declared ordinary education sacrifices childhood to the acquisition of knowledge or rather semblance of knowledge, which is thought to be useful to the adult, whereas life should be as complete as possible during the transient period. Conservatively speaking, four-fifths of what is learned in school is forgotten, but the thirst for knowledge and predilection for self-improvement having become grafted on the individual's mind, the teacher's labors are rewarded. Pupils learn to forget, but strength is developed for what is next to come. In other words, facts and theories serve as the scaffold in erecting mind. The school is not so valuable for knowledge imparted as broader fields are disclosed, not so much for what it does for the pupil as what it inspires him to do for himself. Learning for life and the knowledge of this decade may not be the knowledge of the next, but with fundamental training the individual can keep abreast of the times. What Washington needs is professional teachers of broad experience, who will readjust and revitalize its high and normal training schools curricula.

## Rev. White Calls a Conference.

Arrangements have been completed for a conference with a number of representative men at 2533 1/2 Fifteenth street northwest, February 6, 1911, to take under consideration very important measures of interest to the colored people of the United States.

The conference will be held from 8 P. M. until 10 P. M., after which a supper will be served.

To the Hon. W. T. Vernon, Register of the District of Columbia.

Those invited to the conference are: Judge R. H. Terrell, Mr. Whitfield McKinlay, Collector of Customs; Hon. W. T. Vernon, Register of the Treasury; Hon. J. C. Napier, of Tennessee; Hon. H. Lincoln Johnson, Recorder of Deeds; Rev. G. W. W. Jenkins, D. D., and Mr. W. Calvin Chase, editor of The Bee. The conference is called by Rev. James L. White, 2533 1/2 Fifteenth street northwest.

## Mr. Winslow Sick.

Mr. James H. Winslow, the well known funeral director, and one of the most affable business men in this city, is sick at his home, 1204 R street northwest. Mr. Winslow has been confined to his home and bed for two weeks. His friends and acquaintances are very solicitous about him.